



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

On re Application of:) Examiner: Thien F. Tran
Iu-Meng Tom Ho) Art Group: 2811
Application No.: 10/810,748) Confirmation No.: 9688
Filed: 03/26/2004)
For: Power and Ground Mesh to)
Remove Capacitive and Inductive)
Signal Coupling Effects of Routing in)
Integrated Circuit Device)

)

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

DECLARATION OF PRIOR INVENTION IN THE UNITED STATES TO OVERCOME
CITED PUBLICATION (37 C.F.R. § 1.131)

I, Iu-Meng Tom Ho, declare the following:

1. I am the inventor of the above-identified patent application, which is assigned to Synplicity, Inc. of Sunnyvale, California.
2. I have reviewed the application, including the claims of the application.
3. The declaration made herein is to establish a completion of the invention in the application in the United States at a date prior to February 15th, 2002, which is the cited filing date of the United States Patent Application No. US 2003/0155642 A1 by Davis et al., titled "Unique Feature Design Enabling Structural Integrity for Advanced Low K Semiconductor Chips".

4. I hereby declare that the claimed invention was conceived and reduced to practice at least by February 14th, 2002.

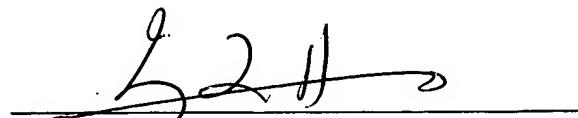
5. I conceived of the claimed invention prior to February 15th, 2002. I implemented a software embodiment of the claimed invention, with a help of an engineer, prior to February 15th, 2002. The software included a routing module, for example, as illustrated in FIG. 10 of the present application.

6. Based on the above description, the invention and reduction to practice of the subject matter described in the present application was prior to February 15th, 2002, the filing date of the Davis, et al. reference.

7. I hereby declare, to the best of my knowledge, that all statements made in this document are true, and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true; and further that these statements are made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under 18 U.S.C. § 1001, and that such willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of the above-identified patent application or any patent issued thereon.

Respectfully Submitted,

Date: April 6, 2006


(Signature)

Name: Iu-Meng Tom Ho
Citizenship: USA
Residence: Milpitas, CA